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CODEWORD ROUTING SHEET

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FROM		INITIALS	DATE
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SC No. 11649/62
16 November 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] (O/IG)

25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Ballistic Missile Shipments to Cuba

1. This memorandum partially answers the questions asked in paragraph 2B of your memorandum of 15 November. It gives as much information on the activities of ships suspected of carrier missiles as we have gathered together so far. We do not have and can not obtain precise information to answer most questions dealing with cargoes carried to Cuba and ports in the USSR where the ships were loaded. We have not included the information requested on what these ships did in Cuba after unloading their cargoes; that is, what was loaded and taken back to the USSR. In almost every instance these ships returned immediately in ballast in order to make a return voyage. However, to verify this in detail would take many hours of painstaking effort which would preclude answering your question for some days.

2. We have identified seven--possibly ten--Soviet ships which have made calls at Cuban ports and could have carried MRBMs below deck. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

3. Our information on the activities of these ships is sketchy, but in retrospect, we can identify 7 voyages which probably account for the delivery of 42 ballistic missiles to Cuba. [REDACTED]

25X1B0a

25X1B0a

The seven voyages mentioned above fit almost precisely into the chart where deliveries of missiles should have occurred. Many other voyages by these ships involved military equipment, but probably not ballistic missiles.

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Ship

Voyage Number and Details

BELORETSK

25X1X2

25X1X2

1. May have arrived in Mariel about 28 August. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PROBABLY carried missile equipment but no missiles. Ship loaded in an unidentified Black Sea port.

2. Arrived in the Mariel area about 13-14 October with an unidentified military cargo from the Black Sea.

BELOVODSK

1. Was on maiden voyage from the Baltic at the time the US quarantine was announced. The ship carried a civil cargo, including 12 MI-4 helicopters, grain, and flour, and arrived in Havana about 3 November.

KASINOV

1. On its maiden voyage to Cuba in September, this ship delivered 10 IL-28 bombers carried as deck cargo. It probably did not carry missile equipment. Arrived in the Mariel/Havana area about 30 September.

2. Turned back from a voyage to Cuba on 23 October when the US quarantine was announced. Had departed from the Baltic.

KIMOVSK

25X1X2

1. Arrived in Cuba from the Baltic on 10 August on its maiden voyage. Port of arrival unknown. Probably carried military equipment but no ballistic missiles. [REDACTED] a large number of trucks and cranes on deck, suggesting the ship may have carried an advanced unit of missile personnel and equipment involved primarily with construction.

2. Arrived Casilda about 22 September from the Black Sea.

No definite information available.

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but in all probability the ship delivered a cargo which included ballistic missiles, some of which were loaded in Casilda when they were returned to the USSR.

25X1X2

25X1B

25X1X2

3. Ship turned back on 23 October when it was approaching the area of the US quarantine on a voyage from the Baltic.

KRASNOGRAD

25X1X2

1. Arrived Mariel on 21 August from the Baltic.

a large number of trucks and construction equipment on deck. This delivery probably involved equipment for missile units but not the missiles themselves.

25X1X2

2. Probably arrived in Mariel about 2 October from the Black Sea. large number of trucks and crates on deck. The crates are similar to those seen on other suspect missile carriers. Ship probably delivered missiles.

25X1X2

OKHOTSK

25X1X2

1. Arrived Havana on 20 September with agricultural equipment from the Soviet Far East port of Vladivostok.

Probably did not carry any military equipment.

25X1X2

CHSK

1. Apparently loaded military equipment in the Black Sea port of Nikolaev in mid-June and arrived in Cuba--probably in the

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25X1X2

Marcel area--on 28 July. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

this shipment probably did not involve ballistic missiles.

2. Arrived at an unknown Cuban port from the Black Sea by 9 September, probably in the Marcel area. This may have been the first shipment of ballistic missiles to arrive in this area

25X1B0a

25X1B0a

25X1X2

25X1X2

3. Arrived in Cuba--probably in the Marcel area--about 16 October, from the Black Sea. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

25X1X2

[REDACTED] it appears likely that it involved the delivery of additional missiles.

ORIENTBURG

1. Entered the Cuban port of Camilla on 29 August from the Black Sea. This may have been the first shipment of missiles to arrive in Cuba. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

2. Probably arrived in the Marcel area about 6 October from the Black Sea. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

[REDACTED] we believe it probably delivered ballistic missiles.

POLTAVA

1. Arrived at an unknown port in Cuba about 2 August from the Black Sea. [REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

[REDACTED] it seems likely this voyage did not involve delivery of missiles.

2. Arrived in Cuba--probably in the Marcel area--about 15 September from the Black Sea.

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[REDACTED]

25X1X2

3. Turned back from a voyage to Cuba on 23 October after President Kennedy's speech. In all probability the ship was carrying a cargo which included ballistic missiles, possibly the first IRBMs.

[REDACTED]

25X1X2

25X1X2

SINFIROPOL

1. Arrived in Havana about 17 October on its maiden voyage from the Baltic. No cargo information is available but we do not believe the ship carried ballistic missiles on this voyage.

[REDACTED]

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Distribution:

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1 - St/CS (Chrono)
1 - St/CS [REDACTED]
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RE/St/CS: [REDACTED]:kph/6278(16 November 1962)

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